

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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P 201901Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7454

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

CONFIDENTIAL SAN SALVADOR 0697

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ES HO PFOR PINT

SUBJ: MEETING BETWEEN MOLINA AND LOPEZ

REF: SAN SALVADOR 0661

1. DCM AND I MET BORGONOVO AT SPECIALEVENT LAST NIGHT AND HE VOLUNTERRED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF BILATERAL PRESIDENTIAL TALKS TO RESOLVE DISPUTE WITH HONDURAS. IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH AGREEMENT THEY HAD MADE IN JALAPA BEFORE OTHER CA PRESIDENTS TO MEET "WITHIN TEN DAYS," MOLINA AND LOPEZ HAD THOUGHT THEY WOULD TRY TO ARRANGE SOMETHING FOR FEBRUARY 20.

2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEETING WERE GOING FORWARD WHEN LOPEZ CALLED MOLINA ON WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 19, TO SAY HE FELT IT BEST IF THEY HELD OFF FOR PRESENT TIME BECAUSE PRESS TREATMENT OF JALAPA RESULTS HAVE PRODUCED CONSIDERABLE INTERNAL POLITICAL PRESSURE IN HONDURAS AND THE HEAT IS TOO GREAT ON HIM (LOPEZ) RIGHT NOW. BORGONOVO QUOTED LOPEZ AS SAYING HE WILL GET BACK TO MOLINA WHEN PROSPECTS FOR MEETING ARE MORE PROPITIOUS.

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3. ACCORDING TO BORGONOVO, LOPEZ' GREATEST PROBLEM IS THE STEPPED-UP PRESSURES FROM HONDURAN POLITICAL PARTIES WHICH ARE APPARENTLY TRYING TO INSIST THAT NORMALIZATION OF AFFAIRS WITH EL SALVADOR MUST BE CONTINGENT ON A PRIOR RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL POLITICAL PROCESSES IN HONDURAS.

4. ASKED IF THE THREE OTHER CA GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO PRESSURE AND URGE FOR A SETTLEMENT, BORGONOVO ASSURED US THEY DO.

5. COMMENT: FROM WHAT BORGONOVO SAID AND FROM PRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CASA PRESIDENCIAL, IT IS CLEAR THAT GOES IS NOT RPT NOT TRYING TO EXPLOIT LOPEZ' DISCOMFITURE IN NOT BEING ABLE, DUE TO INTERNAL PROBLEMS, TO COMPLY WITH JALAPA COMMITMENT. I FEEL THE GOES WILL CONTINUE TO PUT THE BEST LIGHT POSSIBLE ON DELAYS, AND NOT PUSH LOPEZ INTO EARLY MEETING BY CLAIMING STALL. GOES OBVIOUSLY REALIZES THAT NAY SUCH PRESSURE COULD ONLY BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE IN TERMS OF WHAT THE MEETING WOULD BE TRYING TO ACHIEVE.

CAMPBELL

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